

# Quests

## Main Quest

Find out why King Stephen's advisors are pushing for war. Discredit them. Report to Count Aral, especially if you need help.

## Investigate Alain Turick

So far, Turick's motives seem pure. He has asked Fyrtor (in the guise of Garick Fyrman) and Kazador (in his persona as Khaz), to investigate Jonathan Davis, who has been stealing from the treasure.

Harold Donaldson is in Bannerhold to take down as many members of the Handle of the Reaper as he can. He knows of a specific Reaper hideout he can start with.

## General Notes

All of the nobles on this list have both city and country estates, which are likely to be well-guarded (particularly Beaumont's, and especially when the owner is at home).

Count Aral gave us a book in which we can write messages that he will receive. He can in turn write replies in a book on his end, that we will get.

## Bannerhold NPC Profiles

### Jonathan Davis

A mid-level clerk in the royal treasury guilty of thefts. He seems to be working with some man who wears a falcon ring, probably some sort of family insignia. Mel found a magical book under his floorboards and left a note trying to scare him.

### Isabella

A mysterious figure helping non-humans oppressed in Bannerhold.

## King Stephen

Count Aral served as Regent after his father's death. When he was young, King Stephen respected Aral's views. But as he grew, whispers that Aral was the true ruler and not Stephen led Stephen to seek new counselors (most of whom sought to aggrandize themselves).

Aral believes he has been misled by poor advisors, but that Stephen is at heart a decent person who will turn aside from the destructive course he is on if he can be shown the falseness of his "friends."

**Avenues for Investigation:** How did his father die? What of his mother? How old is he?

## Duke Roger Beaumont

The most powerful advocate of war. Elevated to the title of Duke -- a rarity -- by Stephen. Beaumont has an uncanny knowledge of what is happening in the Concordat, and has used this to help Stephen make certain favorable political moves, winning him great esteem with the King.

Aral believes Beaumont is the most dangerous of the group.

From a plate seller in the Bannerhold market, Melia learned that the Beaumonts are hosting a large gathering in a week.

Beaumont has been pushing for restrictions on non-humans since before the Lakefire Rebellion, which occurred five years ago. When the rebellion broke out, non-humans who were unhappy with the increasing restrictions on their lives flocked to the Lakeburner banner. When the rebellion was put down, their participation gave Beaumont grounds to pass more laws restricting non-humans, and more restrictive ones.

While knocking over a secondary Reap base, Kazador and Fyrtor learned that Beaumont has been subsidizing a couple of playwrights who write nationalist plays.

**Avenues for Investigation:** Where and how does Beaumont obtain his information?

## Count Brendan Harcourt

Harcourt hails from a family of shipping magnates. He has invested particularly heavily in the shipping industry of the Bishopric of Helm and rumor has it he has illegally manipulated his investments in the past. He desperately wants Helm brought under Lustian hegemony.

On investigation, we learned that Harcourt purchased darkwood groves in Helm, and was attempting to engineer lustia's annexation of Helm so he could harvest them. Details in our [report to Turick](#).

**Avenues for Investigation:** Why is he so keen to incorporate Helm into lustia? What has he been shipping lately? Has he been illegally manipulating his investments, and if so, how? Evidence for same. Are his holdings in the Bishopric in trouble? Acquire access to Sending and make inquiries through Bishopric contacts.

## Viscount Alain Turick

Turick is one of Stephen's closest friends. They have known each other since childhood. Turick is well-known to hate elves, but has uncharacteristically advocated for an alliance with Avinoax, the sole voice advancing such a plan. He is somewhat hot-tempered, and we observed him to attend an underground fighting ring.

While Beamont, Harcourt and Cust have lately been visiting one another frequently, Turick does not seem to have increased his contacts with the other three beyond what would ordinarily occur in the course of normal court activities.

During the Battle of the Long Mile -- a pivotal moment in the Lakefire Rebellion -- Turick held his troops at their assigned spot despite really hot fighting, which likely won the battle for the establishment forces.

Turick seems class-conscious, but when approached was willing to talk to Fyrman and Khaz following a solid Diplomacy check.

We eventually made peaceful contact with Turick and established an alliance. He has been assisting us with our investigations, and we have been assisting him with his -- because they seem, by and large, to be investigations into the same things.

**Avenues for Investigation:** Why does he hate elves? Why advocate for an alliance with Avinoax?

## Baron Jonathan Cust

Cust's family made their fortune manufacturing weapons, earning a title of nobility for services to the Crown in the River War. He has gained significant wealth in the past years, suspiciously much. Aral had little trust for large-scale arms dealers like him, but had little further information on the man.

From Walter at the Homely Hearth, we learned that Baron Cust is holding a haring tomorrow.

**Avenues for Investigation:** How has he been making so much money? Find bank records, interview warehouse workers, craftsmen who made weapons.

## Tyron Alabaster

A minor noble who hired Gertrude van Beem's to target Bishopric shipping. He was in cahoots with Count Harcourt, serving as Harcourt's agent in hiring van Beem. The funds were transferred to him by the method of Harcourt purchasing property from Alabaster at vastly inflated prices. The party lured him to an ambush at a brothel in Bannerhold along with his two guards. One guard was killed, while Alabaster and the other guard were taken prisoner and delivered to Viscount Turick.

## Lady Elise of Feldnost

King Stephen is courting Lady Elise. She keeps her political opinions quiet, but she may well have some influence on Stephen.

**Avenues for Investigation:** Where does she stand on the prospect of war with the Concordat? Similarly, where does she stand on whether or not to annex Helm?

## Mel's Hypothesis

Mel came up with a [hypothesis](#) about what's going on. Update: it's probably wrong. Update to the update: it's definitely wrong.